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HIS
MAJESTIES
SPEECH,
TO

The Gentlemen of Yorkshire,
On Thursday, the fourth of *August*.

1642.



Printed at York, by Robert Barker, and re-
printed at London, by A Norton 1642.

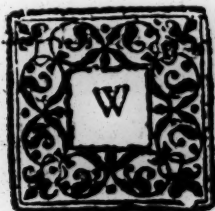
August 8, 1642





His Majesties Speech, to the Gentlemen of Yorkshire, on Thursday the fourth of August.

Gentlemen,



When I directed that Summons should be sent out for your meeting here this day, my principall end was, That I might give you thanks for the great forwardnesse and expressions you have made of your affections to mee since I came into this Country, and to assure you, That as the whole Kingdome hath great reason to value you exceedingly for it, so I shall be very unsatisfied with my selfe, till I have found some way to fix a mark of favour, and estimation upon this County, and this people, which may tell Posterity, how good subjects you have been, and how much Gentlemen; and I am confident the memory of it wil' grow up with my Sons too, in a just acknowledgment. This was the most I intended

tended to say to you, but there is an unquiet Spirit abroad, which every day throws in new accidents to disturb, and confound the publike Peace. How I was driven from *London*, when I chose this place for my safety, is so notorious, that all men know it, who know any thing; with what strange violence, and indignities I have bin pursued, since I came hither, needs no other Evidence, then sir *John Hothams* behaviour at *Hull*, who is now arrived at that insolence, That hee will not suffer his treason to be longer confined within those Walls, but makes sallies out of the Town, upon his fellow subjects, drowns their Land, burns and plunders their houses, murders, and with unheard of cruelty, torments their persons; And this with so much delight, That hee would not have the patience, to wait what Answer should be sent to my just demands, though in that respect, I engaged my selfe, to forbear to use any force, and kept my word; but chose the night before that came, (as if hee well knew what Answer I was to receive) to act those outrages

You see the sad effects of Feares and jealousies, the miseries they have produced; No man can tell you the least good they have brought forth.

forth, or the least evill they have prevented: What inconvenience and burthen my presence hath bin here, what disturbance it hath brought upon the publick, or grievance upon any private person, your selves are the best Iudges; And whatever scandall some men have pleased to cast upon the Cavaliers (which they intend should reach all my Retinew, and by degrees shall involve all Gentlemen) I am confident, there hath not bin any eminent disorder or damage befallne any man, by any person of my Train, or under my protection.

I am sure my directions have been very strict in that point, and if they had not been observed, I think I should have heard of it by neerer complaints, then from *London*; I pray God the same care may be taken there: I am sure it hath not been. And to give you the fullest testimony of my affection to you, and to the peace of this Country, and to shew you that no provocation shall provoke me to make this place to be the seat of the war, I have for your sakes, passed over the Considerations of Honour; and notwithstanding the reproches every day laid on me, laid no siege to that place, that they may not have the least pretence of doing you mischief, but resolve, by
Gods

Gods help to recover *Hull* some other way, for that I will ever sit down under so bold and unexcusable a Treason no honest man can imagine But it seems other men are not of my minde, but resolve to make a War at your own doores, whatsoever you do, or I suffer. To what purpose else is their new Generall armed with an authority to kill and destroy all my good subjects, their levies of Horse and foot, some whereof are upon their March towards you, with Canon mounted, and the sending so many new soldiers into *Hull*, when there is no approach made towards it, but to sally out, and to commit Rapine, and by degrees to poure out an Army upon you : In this I must aske your advice, what you would doe for your selves, what you would have me do for you. you see how I am stript of my Navie at Sea, which is imployed against me, of my Forts and Towns at Land, which are filled with armed men to destroy mee; my money and Provisions of my house taken from me, and all my subjects forbid and threatned if they come neer me, that I may by famine or solitarines be compelled to yield to the most dishonorable Propositions, and to put my self and Children into the hands of a few Malignant

nant persons, who have entred into a Combination to destroy us: And all this done under pretence of a trust reposed by the people. How far you are from committing any such trust, most of the persons trusted by you, and your owne expressions of duty to me, hath manifested to all the World; and how far the whole Kingdom is from avowing such a trust, hath already, in a great measure, and I doubt not will more every day appear, by the professions of every Countie: for I am wholly cast upon the affections of my people, and have no hope but in the blessing and assistance of God, the justnesse of my cause, and the love of my Subjects, to recover what is taken from me and them, for I may iustly say they are equall losers with me.

Gentlemen, I desire you to consider what course is to be taken for your own security from the excursions from *Hull*, and the violence which threatens you from thence: I will assist you any way you propose. Next, I desire you, out of the publicke Provision, or your private Store, to furnish me with such a number of Arms (Musquets and Corsslets) as you may conveniently spare, which I do promise to see fully repaid to you: These Arms I desire may be speedily delivered to

the custody of my Lord Major of York, for my use, principally from those parts, which by reason of their distance from Hull are least subject to the feare of violence from thence.

And whosoever shall so furnish mee, shall be excused from their attendance and service at musters, till their Arms shall be restored, which may well be sooner then I can promise, or you expect. I desire nothing of you but what is necessary to be done for the preservation of Gods true Religion, the Laws of the Land, the Liberty of the Subject and the very being of this Kingdom of England: for tis too evident all these are at stake.

For the compleating my sonnes Regiment for the guard of my Person, under the command of my Lord Cumberland, I refer it wholly to your selves, who have expressed such forwardnesse in it.

FINIS.